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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. Of: WITHERS ET AL.

Appln. Serial No.: 10/828,641

Filed: April 21, 2004

For: THERMAL AND ELECTROCHEMICAL PROCESS FOR ...

Docket: MER 03.01

Confirmation No. 5332

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request the following amendments be made prior to examination of the subject application.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this Amendment.

**HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.**  
3450 E. SUNRISE DRIVE,  
SUITE 140  
TUCSON, AZ 85718  
TEL. 520.882.7623  
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET  
MANCHESTER, NH 03101  
TEL. 603.668.1400  
FAX. 603.668.8567